

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01 /130 W

----- 103983

R 241340Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 108

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

USSAG

DIA

13 AF

13 AF SURGEON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 5809

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA

REF: VIENTIANE 5729

1. SOUVANNA HAS RECOVERED TO THE POINT WHERE HIS FAMILY NOW CAN READ THE NEWSPAPER TO HIM. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS LEUAM AND PHOUMI WERE ALLOWED TO VISIT HIM FOR FIVE MINUTES JULY 23, AFTER WHICH HE SIGNED SOME OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS. THE CONSENSUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GROUP WAS THAT HIS POLITICAL ACTIVITY MUST BE KEPT TO AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM DURING THE CONVALESCENCE PERIOD. THE TEAM OF DOCTORS IS BEGINNING TO DISBAND WITH THE SOVIETS LEAVING JULY 24 FOLLOWED BY THE
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CHINESE.

2. DR. KLIKS' MEDICAL ASSESSMENT FOR 2100, 21 JULY TO 1600, 23 JULY FOLLOWS: THE PRIME MINISTER CONTINUES TO REMAIN VERY STABLE AND HE IS FEELING STRONGER. THE CHEST EXAM REVEALS ONLY A FEW BASILAR RALES, THE GALLOP (S4) IS NO LONGER PRESENT AND THERE IS NO SIGN OF THROMBOPHLEBITIS. THE EKG REMAINS ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED DURING THE PERIOD. THE MONITOR ELECTRODES WERE REMOVED FROM THE PATIENT ON JULY 22. THE HEPARIN AND LICOMYCIN WERE DISCONTINUED ON THE 23RD AND THE IV COMP REMOVED.

3. THE MINISTER AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HEALTH MET WITH ALL THE DOCTORS FOR TWO HOURS ON JULY 23 TO DISCUSS A ROUGH DRAFT OF THE PLAN FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S CONVALESCENCE. THE PLAN REPRESENTS A COMPROMISE BETWEEN POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE RUSSIANS AND THE CHINESE ON THE ONE HAND AND THE FRENCH-AMERICAN-THAI PROPOSALS ON THE OTHER. THE PROGRAM IS BASED ON JULY 13 AS THE STARTING POINT: SITTING UP IN BED WITH LEGS DANGLING OVER THE EDGE OF THE BED AT 12-14 DAYS; SITTING IN A CHAIR, 18-19 DAYS; BEGIN WALKING IN THE BEDROOM ONLY 20-21 DAYS; FIVE FULL WEEKS CONVALESCENCE IN LAOS BEFORE TRAVEL IS ALLOWED. THE FINAL DESTINATION OR MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED YET.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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